

EDITORIAL REPORT FOR 1998

Submission of papers to the journal is on the increase again. After a fall last year the number of papers received has risen to 115, none of which were for special issues. Despite this, the wait before publication has fallen significantly during the last year, so that after acceptance manuscripts are now being published within about 6 months compared with 8 months last year. As the number of issues has risen and will continue to do so it is hoped that this timescale can be maintained.

The reduction in backlog has also been helped by the fact that there have been no special issues of the journal this year. Two are planned for 1999, one of fluvial papers from the 1997 IAG meeting in Bologna (Editors Colin Thorne/ Paolo Billi) and a second arising from the Conference of Aeolian Research (Editor Ian Livingstone) in July 1998.

During 1998 the Editorial Board has increased in size. Ana Coelho Netto, Nick Lancaster and Tom Spencer have joined us and Michael Selby has stepped down. There will be further changes in the Editorial Board for 1999, allowing some retirements and replacements in slightly different topical and geographical areas. I should like to thank all the retiring editors – Frank Ahnert, Derek Ford, Avijit Gupta, Michael Selby, David Sugden and Bruce Thom – for their assistance and advice in the form and content of the journal over recent years. Very particular thanks are due also to Keith Richards who retires as Book Review Editor and to Jack Hardisty for editing the *Technical and Software Bulletin*.

I am delighted to welcome as new members of the Editorial Board for 1999, Julian Dowdeswell, Alan Howard, Jean-Luc Mercier, Richard Dikau, Tsuguo Sunamura and Paul Williams. Nick Cox is our new Book Review Editor. Our new Board now includes representation, for the first time, from Brazil, France and Japan and I should like to encourage authors to submit their manuscripts either directly to me, or to the editor who they feel will best represent their regional or subject interests.

Although the *Technical and Software Bulletin* has now been subsumed within what will now be the 13 normal issues of the journal, Technical Communications still remain an important element of the journal and will continue to be published on a regular basis starting with a technical section in the first issue of 1999. Danny McCarroll, the BGRG Editor, will take on the role of Technical Editor from 1999 so technical manuscripts should be submitted to him. From January 1999 the journal will be published simultaneously on the World Wide Web (<http://www.wiley.interscience.com/jpages/0197-9337/>). Contents (including forthcoming titles) and abstracts will be freely available, and full contents and printout will be available to Library subscribers, with password access. Software, data and additional graphical or other multimedia will also be available through the web pages. Authors will soon be able to provide material to accompany their manuscripts, which will offer subscribers all the software and data facilities previously offered on disk with the *Technical and Software Bulletin*. To signal these changes, the cover design and picture have also been changed, both to link in to the new Wiley house style, and to update the design which has not changed since 1992. It will still be green, but in a more earthy shade.

Finally, I should like to thank the editorial team in Leeds and Chichester and our many referees, listed below, for their continuing support. Without them *Earth Processes and Landforms* could not continue to maintain its position as one of the premier internationally recognized journals of geomorphology. We all look forward to 1999 as another good year, guaranteed by the contributions we already have in hand, and those we hope you will all be sending us.

Further details on electronic publications are available at <http://www.wiley.co.uk>.

Mike Kirkby
Managing Editor

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